

Express Mail No. EL026007638US

Attorney Docket No.11770US03

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REISSUE APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL  
(Broadening Reissue)**

Transmitted herewith is the application for reissue of:

***U.S. Patent No.:***5,554,121

***issued on:*** September 10, 1996

***Inventor(s):*** Robert D. Ainsworth, Tai C. Cheng and Lawrence D. Wasicek.

***Title:*** INTRALUMINAL CATHETER WITH HIGH STRENGTH PROXIMAL  
SHAFT

The patentee hereby requests that the U.S. Patent identified above be reissued to correct the errors identified and to be identified in the original patent, as indicated in the enclosed specification and claims.

This application for a broadening reissue is being filed on or before September 10, 1998 – the second anniversary of the issue date of the patent.

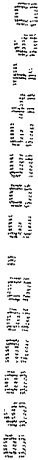
**Enclosed are the following:**

1. **Specification:**

An amended specification (7 pages), with additions and deletions indicated by bracketing and underlining;

2. **Claims:**

- Original claims 1-6,
- claims 7-17 added by Reexamination Certificate B1 (3574th) on Jul. 14, 1998, as amended, and
- new claims 18-56 added in this reissue application;



3. **Drawings:**

1 sheet of original drawing (formal);

4. **Abstract:**

An amended Abstract on 1 sheet; and

5. **Printed Patent:**

A copy of the original printed patent and reexamination certificate.

The following papers or items are not enclosed, and will be supplied later

6. **Declaration and power of attorney**


7. The written **consent of the assignees** to the reissue

8. A **submission demonstrating the ownership interest of the assignee**, in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR § 3.73(b).

9. An **Offer to surrender** the original letters patent

10. The necessary **fee**.

11. An **Information Disclosure Statement** and enclosures.

  
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FORM 401	
NOTICE OF FILING OF REISSUE APPLICATION FOR PUBLICATION IN OFFICIAL GAZETTE	
ORIGINAL PATENT NUMBER	5554121
SERIAL NUMBER OF REISSUE	09/143503
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CLASS AND SUBCLASS	604 / 96
TITLE	INTRALUMINAL CATHETER WITH HIGH STRENGTH PROXIMAL SHAFT
INVENTOR	ROBERT D AINSWORTH et al
OWNER OF RECORD	ADVANCED CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEMS INC. SANTA CLARA, CA
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EXAMINING GROUP ASSIGNED	
DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT IN OFFICIAL GAZETTE	

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SPECIFICATION AND CLAIMS FOR REISSUE  
APPLICATION

U.S. Patent No. 5,554,121

Issued Sep. 10, 1996

TITLE:

Intraluminal catheter with high strength  
proximal shaft

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Issued from U.S. Serial No.: 280,210

Filed: Jul. 25, 1994

Primary Examiner: Yasko, John D.

Assistant Examiner: Knights, Laird J.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to the field of intravascular catheters, and more particularly to a dilatation catheter for percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA).

5 PTCA is one of the most widely used treatment modalities for heart disease. The procedure basically comprises advancing a dilatation catheter, having an inflatable balloon on the distal portion thereof, into the patient's coronary anatomy until the balloon of the dilatation catheter is properly positioned across the lesion to be dilated. Once properly positioned, the  
10 dilatation balloon is inflated with liquid one or more times to a predetermined size at relatively high pressures (e.g. greater than 4 atmospheres) to expand the arterial passageway. Generally, the inflated diameter of the balloon is approximately the same diameter as the native diameter of the body lumen being dilated so as to complete the dilatation  
15 but not overexpand the artery wall. After the balloon is finally deflated, blood flow resumes through the dilated artery and the dilatation catheter can be removed therefrom.

Commercially available over-the-wire dilatation catheters for angioplasty and other vascular procedures usually comprise an elongated  
20 shaft with an inflatable dilatation member on a distal portion of the shaft and an adapter on the proximal end of the shaft for the delivery of inflation fluid through an inner lumen extending through the catheter shaft to the interior of the inflatable dilatation member. A second inner lumen configured to slidably receive a guidewire extends through the shaft to a  
25 guidewire port in the distal end of the catheter. Conventional over-the-wire catheters have the guidewire receiving inner lumen[s] extending from the proximal end of the catheter to the distal end of the catheter. A catheter configured for rapid exchange has a much shorter guidewire lumen and extends from a proximal guidewire port spaced a substantial distance from  
30 the proximal end of the catheter to the distal port in the distal end.

The progression of improvements in dilatation catheters generally has been to make the catheters with lower profiles, i.e. smaller transverse dimensions, and with ~~the~~ stiffer proximal shafts. A stiffened proximal shaft provides greater push to the catheter which facilitates advancement over a guidewire in tortuous anatomy. Stiffened proximal shaft sections formed of plastic materials, stainless steel and superelastic NiTi alloys are disclosed in the prior art. However, the raw material and manufacturing costs for a catheter having a relatively stiff proximal shaft is quite high.

What has been needed is an ~~intralumenal~~ intraluminal catheter which has a low profile and a relatively stiff proximal shaft which is easy and inexpensive to manufacture. The present invention provides such a desirable product.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention is directed to an intraluminal catheter which has at least part of the shaft thereof formed of a melt processable engineering thermoplastic polymer material and preferably an aromatic polymer. The melt processed, e.g. extruded, thermoplastic polymer has a tensile strength greater than 10,000 psi (6895 N/cm<sup>2</sup>), preferably greater than 14,000 psi (9653 N/cm<sup>2</sup>), an elongation at break greater than 50%, preferably greater than 60%, and a tensile modulus greater than 300,000 psi (206,850 N/cm<sup>2</sup>), preferably greater than 400,000 psi (275,800 N/cm<sup>2</sup>). The melt processable linear aromatic polymers include ~~including~~ polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polyetherketone, polyketone, polyetherketoneketone, polyaryletherketone, polysulfone and polyether sulfone. Other aromatic engineering thermoplastic polymers which have the above properties are also suitable.

One presently preferred embodiment of the invention is a dilatation catheter which has an elongated catheter shaft with a relatively stiff proximal portion formed of the engineering thermoplastic polymer and a relatively flexible distal portion and an inflatable dilatation member on the distal portion of the catheter. The proximal portion of the presently

preferred embodiment has an outer tubular member, an inner tubular member disposed within the outer tubular member and defining an annular inner lumen between the inner and outer tubular [member] members. The inner tubular member has an inner lumen which extends to a distal guidewire port in the distal end thereof. At least one of the inner and outer tubular members forming the proximal portion of the catheter shaft [are] is formed of the engineering thermoplastic polymer described above.

In this embodiment, the distal portion of the inflatable dilatation member is sealed about and secured to a distal extremity of the inner tubular member and the proximal portion of the inflatable dilatation member is sealed about and secured to a distal extremity of the outer tubular member.

The intraluminal catheter of the invention has excellent pushability due to the relatively stiff proximal portion, yet because the requisite aromatic polymers can be formed into very thin walled structures and have relatively high strength and elongation properties, the catheter shafts generally do not kink under normal intraluminal use. These and other advantages of the invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description of the invention and the accompanying exemplary drawings.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an elevational view partially in section of a dilatation catheter assembly which embodies features of the invention.

FIG. 2 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view of the shaft of the catheter assembly shown in circle 2 shown in FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a transverse cross-sectional view of the shaft shown in FIG. 2, taken along the lines 3-3.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

As shown in FIG. 1 the dilatation catheter 10 of the invention generally includes an elongated catheter shaft 11 with an inflatable



dilatation balloon 12 on a distal portion of the catheter shaft and an adapter 13 mounted on the proximal end of the catheter shaft.

The catheter shaft 11 has an outer tubular member 14 and an inner tubular member 15 disposed within the outer tubular member and defining  
5 with the outer tubular member an annular lumen 16 which is in fluid communication with the interior of the inflatable dilatation balloon 12. The inner tubular member 15 has an inner lumen 17 extending therein which is configured to slidably receive a guidewire 18 suitable for advancement through a patient's coronary arteries.

10 The distal extremity of the inflatable dilatation balloon 12 is sealingly secured to the distal extremity of the inner tubular member 15 and the proximal extremity of the balloon is secured to the distal extremity of the outer tubular member 16.

The outer tubular member 16 has a relatively stiff proximal portion  
15 20 formed of a [requisite] linear aromatic polymer and the distal extremity of the proximal portion 20 is secured to the proximal extremity of the distal portion 21 of the outer tubular member at a lap joint 22 formed by suitable means such as heat or laser fusion or commercially available cyanoacrylate adhesives. The distal portion 21 of the outer tubular member 14 is formed of  
20 a melt processable more flexible polymer material such as polyethylene or Hytrel® [Registered TM]. The inner tubular member 15 extends along the entire length of the catheter and may be formed of suitable materials such as polyethylene, Hytrel® [Registered TM] and the like.

The length of the dilatation catheter 10 may be about 120 to about  
25 150 cm [in length], and typically is about 135 cm [in length]. The outer tubular member 15 has an outer diameter (OD) [OD] of about 0.03 to about 0.05 inch (0.76-1.27 mm) and an inner diameter (ID) [ID] of about 0.025 to about 0.035 inch (0.635-0.899 mm). Although not shown in the drawings, the outer tubular member 14 may taper in its distal portion to a smaller OD  
30 of about 0.04 to about 0.02 inch (1.02-10.5 mm) and a smaller ID of about 0.03 to about 0.015 inch [I](0.762-0.381). The smaller diameter portion

between the taper and the proximal extremity of the balloon 12 may be about 5 to about 25 cm in length.

The inner tubular member 15 has an OD ranging from about 0.018 to about 0.026 inch (0.457-0.66 mm), and the ID of the inner tubular member will usually be determined by the diameter of the guidewire 18 which is to be used with the catheter, which may range from about 0.008 to about 0.02 inch [0.203-0.51 mm]. The inner diameter of the inner lumen should be about 0.002 to about 0.005 (0.051-0.127 mm) inch larger than the OD of the guidewire 18 to be used. Usually there will be a family of catheters for each size of guidewire with a variety of maximum inflated balloon sizes, e.g. 0.5 to about 4 mm in diameter and with various working lengths ranging from about 1 to about 10 cm.

In a presently preferred embodiment the proximal portion 20 of the outer tubular member 16 is formed of PEEK (Grade 381 G) from Victrex USA. The resin is readily extruded at a temperature of about 750° to about 800° F. at a pressure of about 2800 psi into thin walled tubing suitable for the outer tubular member forming the proximal portion of the catheter shaft. The proximal end of the distal portion of the outer tubular member is plasma treated to facilitate the joining of the distal end of the extruded tubular member to the proximal end of the distal portion of the outer tubular member 16. The proximal end of the distal portion 21 of the outer tubular member 16 is secured by a suitable adhesive in a lap joint at least about 1 mm and preferably about 2 to about 4 mm in length to the distal end of the distal portion 21 of the outer tubular member 16. The adhesive is preferably a UV cured adhesive such as UV 350 which is available from the Loctite Corporation, although other conventional adhesives are suitable.

In another preferred embodiment of the invention inner tubular member 15 is preferably of composite construction comprising a polymer such as polyethylene or Hytrel® [Registered TM] which has incorporated therein graphite particles, such as described in copending application Ser. No. 08/134,863, filed on Oct. 12, 1993, entitled COMPOSITE MATERIAL

HAVING A LUBRICOUS SURFACE FOR CATHETER USE, and a  
copening application [filed concurrently herewith], Ser. No. 08/280,291,  
filed Jul. 26 1994, now abandoned, entitled: COMPOSITE POLYESTER  
MATERIAL HAVING A LUBRICOUS SURFACE, both of which are  
5 incorporated herein in their entirety. Both [application] applications are  
assigned or will be assigned to the present assignee, Advanced  
Cardiovascular Systems, Inc.

To the extent not previously described herein, the various catheter  
components may be formed of conventional materials. For example, the  
10 radiopaque marker 31 may be a gold band and the adapter body may be  
formed of polycarbonate polymer[s]. The balloon 12 may be a relatively  
inelastic high strength material such as polyethylene, polyethylene  
terephthalate, polyolefinic ionomers such as Surlyn® [Registered TM],  
nylon and the like which are frequently used to form dilatation balloons.

15 While the present invention has been described herein primarily in  
terms of a catheter construction wherein the proximal portion of the outer  
tubular member is formed of the requisite linear aromatic polymer, those  
skilled in the art will recognize that the proximal portion or the entire inner  
tubular member may be formed of a linear aromatic polymer. Moreover, a  
20 portion of the catheter shaft can have an extruded dual lumen construction  
which is formed of a linear aromatic polymer. Other modifications and  
improvements may be made to the invention [with out] without departing  
from the scope thereof.

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A balloon dilatation catheter comprising:

5           a) a proximal catheter shaft portion formed at least in part of an extruded engineering thermoplastic polymeric material with a tensile strength greater than 10,000 psi, an elongation greater than 50% and a tensile modulus greater than 300,000 psi, having proximal and distal ends and having a first inner lumen extending therein to the distal end;

10           b) a distal catheter shaft portion being more flexible than the proximal catheter shaft portion, having proximal and distal ends and a second inner lumen extending from the proximal end of the distal shaft portion to a location proximal to the distal end of the distal catheter shaft portion and being in fluid communication with the first inner lumen  
15           extending within the proximal catheter shaft portion; and

            c) an expandable dilatation balloon on the distal catheter shaft portion having an interior in fluid communication with the second inner lumen extending within the distal shaft portion.

20           2. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 1 wherein the polymeric material is a linear aromatic polymer.

            3. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 2 wherein the linear aromatic polymer is selected from the group consisting of  
25           polyetheretherketone, polyetherketone, polyketone, polyethereketoneketone, polyaryletherketone, polysulfone and polyether sulfone.

            4. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 1 wherein the polymeric material of the proximal catheter shaft has a tensile strength greater than  
30           about 14,000 psi, an elongation greater than about 60% and a tensile modulus greater than about 400,000 psi.

5. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 1 wherein the proximal catheter shaft portion has an outer tubular member and an inner tubular member which is disposed within the outer tubular member and which  
35 defines with the outer tubular member the first inner lumen extending therein, at least one of the inner and the outer tubular members being formed of the extruded engineering thermoplastic polymeric material.

6. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 1 wherein the relatively  
40 stiff proximal catheter shaft portion includes a relatively flexible distal shaft portion.

7. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 1, wherein the polymeric  
45 material is a polyetheretherketone.

8. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 4, wherein the polymeric  
material is a polyetheretherketone.

9. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 5, wherein the polymeric  
50 material is a polyetheretherketone.

10. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 6, wherein the polymeric  
material is a polyetheretherketone.

55 11. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 1, wherein the proximal catheter shaft portion includes an outer tubular member made of the polymeric material.

12. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 11, wherein the proximal  
60 material is a polyetheretherketone.

13. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 5, wherein the outer tubular member is made of the polymeric material.

14. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 13, wherein the  
65 polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

15. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 1, wherein:

[A.] a) the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone having a tensile strength greater than about 14,000 psi, an elongation greater than  
70 about 60 and a tensile modulus greater than about 400,000 psi; and

[B.] b) the proximal catheter shaft portion has an outer tubular member and an inner tubular member which is disposed within the outer tubular member and which defines with the outer tubular member the first inner lumen extending therein, at least one of the inner and the outer tubular  
75 members being formed of the polyetheretherketone.

16. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 1 sized and having the flexibility and pushability required for use as a dilatation catheter for percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty.

80

17. The balloon dilatation catheter of claim 16, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

18. An intraluminal catheter for percutaneous insertion and  
85 transluminal advancement into a patient's vasculature, the catheter having a shaft comprising:

a) a proximal shaft portion formed at least in part of an extruded thermoplastic polymeric material with a tensile strength greater than 10,000 psi; and  
90 b) a distal shaft portion that is more flexible than the proximal shaft portion.

19. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

95        20. The intraluminal catheter of claim 18, wherein the extruded thermoplastic polymeric material has an elongation greater than 50%.

21. The catheter of claim 20, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

100

22. The catheter of claim 18, further comprising a lumen extending at least in the distal shaft portion.

23. The catheter of claim 22, further comprising a second lumen in the catheter shaft adapted to receive a guidewire, the second lumen extending from a distal port in the distal end of the catheter to a proximal guidewire port proximal of the distal guidewire port.

105

24. The catheter of claim 22, further comprising an expandable dilatation balloon carried by the shaft, wherein the lumen directs inflation fluid to the dilatation balloon.

110

25. The catheter of claim 24, wherein the lumen has a proximal end for receiving inflation fluid and a distal end for directing inflation fluid to the balloon.

115

26. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the shaft has an inner tubular member and an outer tubular member, at least one of the inner and the outer tubular members having a proximal portion formed of the extruded thermoplastic polymeric material.

120

27. The catheter of claim 26 wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

125        28. The catheter of claim 26, wherein the proximal portion of the  
outer tubular member is made of the extruded thermoplastic polymeric  
material.

130        29. The catheter of claim 28 wherein the extruded thermoplastic  
polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

135        30 The catheter of claim 28, wherein a distal portion of the outer  
tubular member is made of a material more flexible than the extruded  
thermoplastic polymeric material.

140        31. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the extruded thermoplastic  
polymeric material has a tensile modulus greater than 300,000 psi.

145        32. The catheter of claim 31, wherein the polymeric material is a  
polyetheretherketone.

150        33. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the extruded thermoplastic  
polymeric material has a tensile modulus greater than about 400,000 psi.

155        34. The catheter of claim 33, wherein the polymeric material is a  
polyetheretherketone.

160        35. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the extruded thermoplastic  
polymeric material has a tensile strength greater than about 14,000 psi.

165        36. The catheter of claim 35, wherein the polymeric material is a  
polyetheretherketone.

170        37. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the extruded thermoplastic  
polymeric material has an elongation greater than about 60%.



155            38. The catheter of claim 37, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

39. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the polymeric material has an elongation greater than 50% and a tensile modulus greater than 300,000  
160    psi.

40. The catheter of claim 39, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

165            41. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone having a tensile strength greater than about 14,000 psi, an elongation greater than about 60%, and a tensile modulus greater than about 400,000 psi.

170            42. The catheter of claim 41, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

43. The catheter of claim 18, sized and having the flexibility and pushability required for percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty.

175            44. The catheter of claim 43, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

45. The catheter of claim 18, sized and having the kink-  
180    resistance required for percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty.

46. The catheter of claim 45, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

185            47. The catheter of claim 18, sized and having the flexibility,  
pushability, and kink-resistance required for percutaneous transluminal  
coronary angioplasty.

48. The catheter of claim 47, wherein the polymeric material is a  
190 polyetheretherketone.

49. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the shaft is about 120 to  
about 150 cm in length.

195            50. The catheter of claim 49, wherein the polymeric material is a  
polyetheretherketone.

51. The catheter of claim 18, wherein the proximal shaft portion  
comprises an extruded tubular member of the extruded thermoplastic  
200 polymeric material.

52. The catheter of claim 51, wherein the polymeric material is a  
polyetheretherketone.

205            53. An intraluminal catheter for percutaneous insertion and  
transluminal advancement into a patient's vasculature, the catheter having a  
shaft comprising:

              a) a proximal shaft portion formed at least in part of an  
extruded thermoplastic polymeric material with a tensile  
210 modulus greater than 300,000 psi; and

              b) a distal shaft portion that is more flexible than the proximal  
shaft portion.

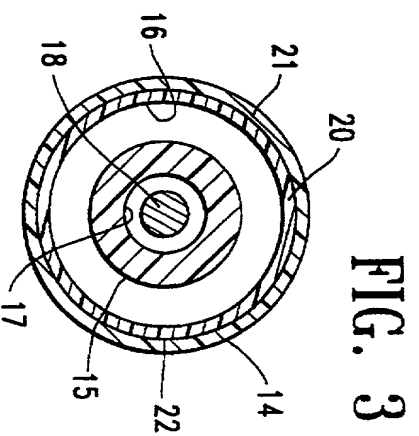
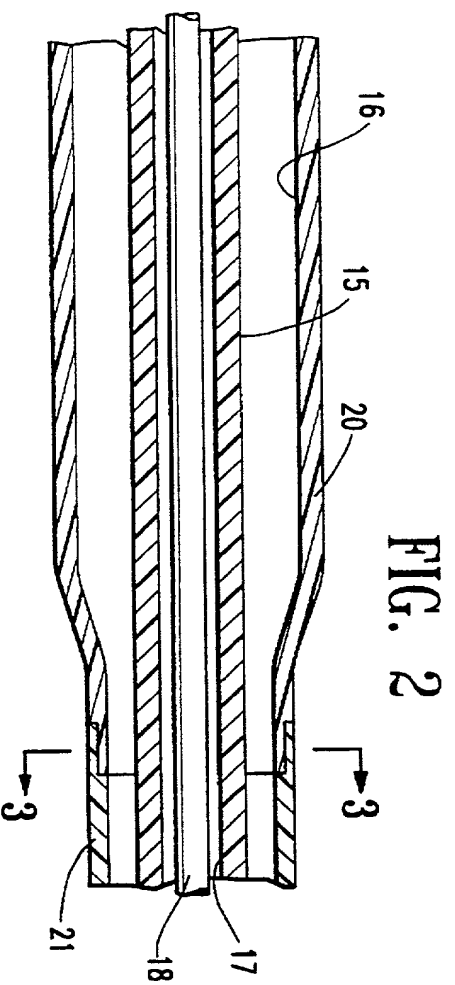
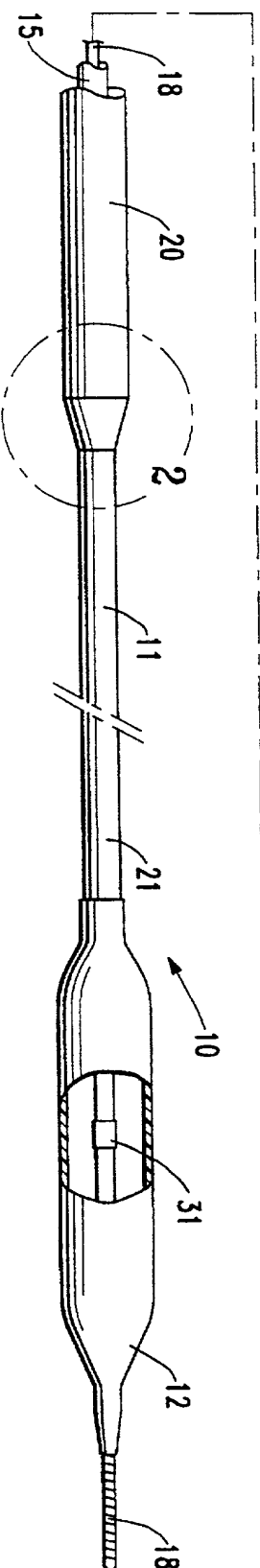
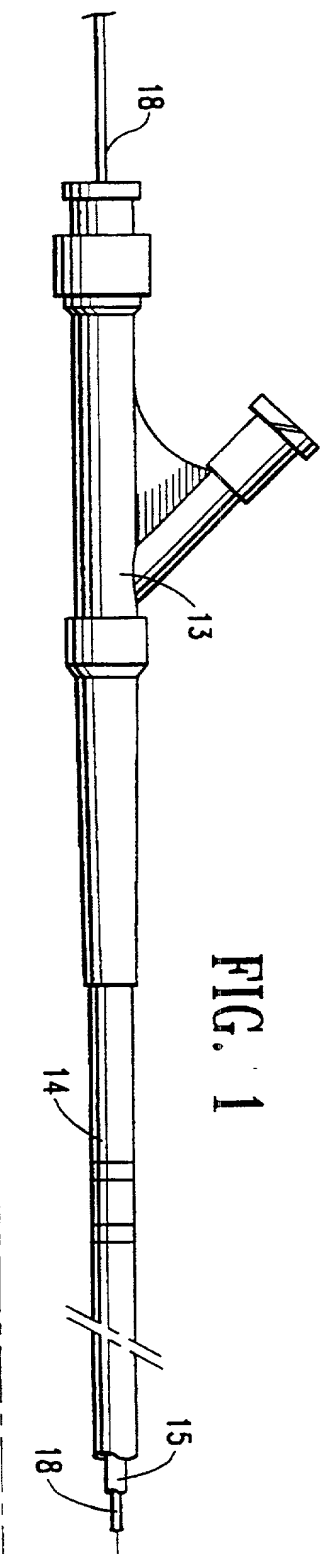
54. The catheter of claim 53, wherein the polymeric material is a  
215 polyetheretherketone.

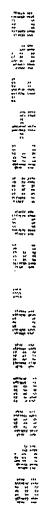
55. The catheter of claim 53, wherein said extruded thermoplastic polymeric material has an elongation greater than 50%.

220 56. The catheter of claim 55, wherein the polymeric material is a polyetheretherketone.

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A balloon dilatation catheter having a relatively stiff proximal catheter shaft which is formed at least in part of an engineering thermoplastic polymer material with a tensile strength of at least about 10,000 psi, an elongation of at least 50% and a tensile modulus of at least  
5 300,000 psi. The polymer is preferably an aromatic polymer, and particularly polyetheretherketone.



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for scanning. (Document title)

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